



Responding to the Ebola Crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The issue: The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is experiencing the world's second largest Ebola epidemic ever with 3,300 cases and nearly 2,200 deaths. Today, the epidemic remains a very dangerous risk, and greater support is needed to end the epidemic and ensure that health systems are strengthened to prevent future outbreaks.

Why it matters: The World Health Organization declared the Ebola outbreak a public health emergency of international concern in July 2019. While progress has been made, the outbreak will continue to burn and pose health, security and economic risks to the world without more urgent action. Now is the time to tip the scales and wipe out the last cases before more lives are lost and the disease spreads to neighboring countries. Beyond the immediate response, this outbreak has crippled the health system of eastern DRC and its ability to fight other outbreaks like malaria and measles, posing future global health security problems if DRC's health systems are not strengthened.

Solution and impact: To beat back Ebola, on-the-ground support for contact tracing, vaccination and surveillance is urgently needed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has requested the CDC Foundation seek out donor support to meet critical operational needs in the Ebola response in DRC, and to address critical gaps in neighboring countries in the region that cannot be met with CDC resources alone.

“It is essential to invest now to bring an end to the Ebola outbreak in DRC and to begin shoring up health system capacities to prevent another outbreak.”

Judy Monroe, MD, President and CEO, CDC Foundation

Urgent DRC Ebola response needs: To advance CDC's coordinated response to the epidemic in DRC, the CDC Foundation is mobilizing **\$15–\$20 million** in support. CDC has identified the following priority resource needs in DRC:

- Field staff who can be deployed to serve as epidemiologists, infection prevention and control and vaccination advisors and support staff for logistics, data management and overall emergency management.
- Strengthen infection prevention and control practices at high-risk health facilities to interrupt transmission of Ebola.
- Conduct urgent operational research to inform current medical care and public health efforts for Ebola survivors.
- Additional support for DRC and neighboring countries, such as lab equipment and materials, field supplies, motorcycles, internet connectivity and more.

How you can help: The current situation in DRC reminds us that disease threats can spread rapidly. The CDC Foundation is turning to its philanthropic and private sector partners to help strengthen efforts to contain and stop Ebola in DRC; invest in the region's ability to detect and stop outbreaks before they spread; and protect global health security long term.

CDC has a unique role in protecting public health security, and its world-class experts are dedicated to containing diseases before they become epidemics that could affect us all. Based on gaps identified in DRC, the CDC Foundation can guide private-sector partners to areas where their resources can be most impactful in the fight against global threats.

Partnership opportunities: The CDC Foundation is actively seeking funding partners to support the response to the Ebola crisis in DRC. To learn more, contact Laura Croft at the CDC Foundation: lcroft@cdcfoundation.org, 404.523.1788.

About Us: The CDC Foundation helps CDC save and improve lives by unleashing the power of collaboration between CDC, philanthropies, corporations, organizations and individuals to protect the health, safety and security of America and the world. The CDC Foundation is the sole entity authorized by Congress to mobilize philanthropic partners and private-sector resources to support CDC's critical health protection mission. Since 1995, the CDC Foundation has launched approximately 1,000 programs in more than 130 countries and raised over \$800 million. Learn more about the CDC Foundation at cdcfoundation.org.